1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
11.	J&K	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
12.	Jharkhand	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
13.	Karnataka	4000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
14.	Kerala	5000	6000	8000	8000	8000	8000
15.	MP	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
16.	Maharastra	5000	6000	10000	10000	10000	1000
17.	Manipur	300	300	300	300	300	300
18.	Meghalaya	300	300	300	300	300	300
19.	Mizoram	300	300	300	300	300	300
20	Nagaland	300	300	300	300	300	300
21.	Orissa	4000	5000	4000	4000	4000	4000
22.	Punjab	2500	2500	2500	2000	12000	3000
23.	Rajasthan	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000	6000
24.	Sikkim	300	300	300	300	300	300
25.	Tamil Nadu	4000	5000	5000	5000	6250	6250
26.	Tripura	800	800	800	800	800	800
27.	Uttar Pradesh	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
28.	Uttarakhand	5000	5000	5000	5000	10000	5000
29.	West Bengal	10000	5000	5000	5000	5000	5000
30.	And -Nicobar	100	100	100	300	300	300
31.	D&N Haveli	50	50	50	50	50	50
32.	Pondicherry	100	100	150	150	150	150
33.	Chandigarh	50	50	50	50	50	50
34.	Lakshadweep	50	50	NIL	50	50	50
35.	Daman and Diu	50	50	50	50	50	50
	TOTAL:	100000	100000	100000	99750	119000	100000

Procurement of foodgrains

2050. SHRI MATILAL SARKAR: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the organizations engaged in the procurement of foodgrains;

(b) the procedure adopted by the Central Government to ensure that the MSP reaches the farmers in the true sense of the term;

(c) how Government propose to take measure that the private organizations are not allowed to jump into open market to purchase foodgrains and other agricultural produces at a cheaper rates and plunge into hoarding in the States where FCI remains absent; and

(d) the measure to safeguard the farmers interest at all costs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) and (b) Procurement of wheat and rice for the Central Pool is undertaken by Food Corporation of India (FCI) and Agencies of the State Governments. Before every procurement season instructions are issued by the Department of Food and Public Distribution that FCI and State agencies should open procurement centers in all districts producing marketable surplus of foodgrains. Instructions are also issued to FCI and the State Governments to give wide publicity through print and visual media as well as through banners, pamphlets etc. regarding the Minimum Support Price (MSP) Scheme, names of the procurement agencies and locations of purchase centres etc. Control Rooms are also set up in the Ministry, FCI headquarters, FCI Regional Offices and by the State Governments to monitor procurement and investigate reports of distress sale.

(c) and (d) As per the present policy, farmers are free to sell their produce to the Government agencies at MSP, or to the private parties, as is advantageous to them. This ensures remunerative prices to the farmers. However, adequate powers are vested with State/UT Governments under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and prevention of Black marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980 for preventing malpractices in respect of essential commodities. A Central Order was issued on 29th August, 2006, which is currently valid upto 31.8.2007, empowering State Governments to fix stock-holding limits in respect of these two essential commodities. A notification titled "Wheat (Stock Declaration by Companies or Firms or Individuals) Order 2007 has also been issued under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 which provides that any Company or Firm or individual which purchases wheat beyond 50,000 tonnes during 2007-08 shall furnish to the Central Government a return indicating the name/address of the company, quantity of wheat purchased and quantity of wheat held in stock.

Procurement of wheat

2051. SHRI DEVDAS APTE: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether FCI has started its drive of wheat procurement from 1st April, 2007;

(b) how much wheat it has procured till date;

(c) whether some private companies like Cargill and Australian Wheat Board are paying much more than Government price; and

(d) whether Government have initiated any action for prohibition of these foreign companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir.